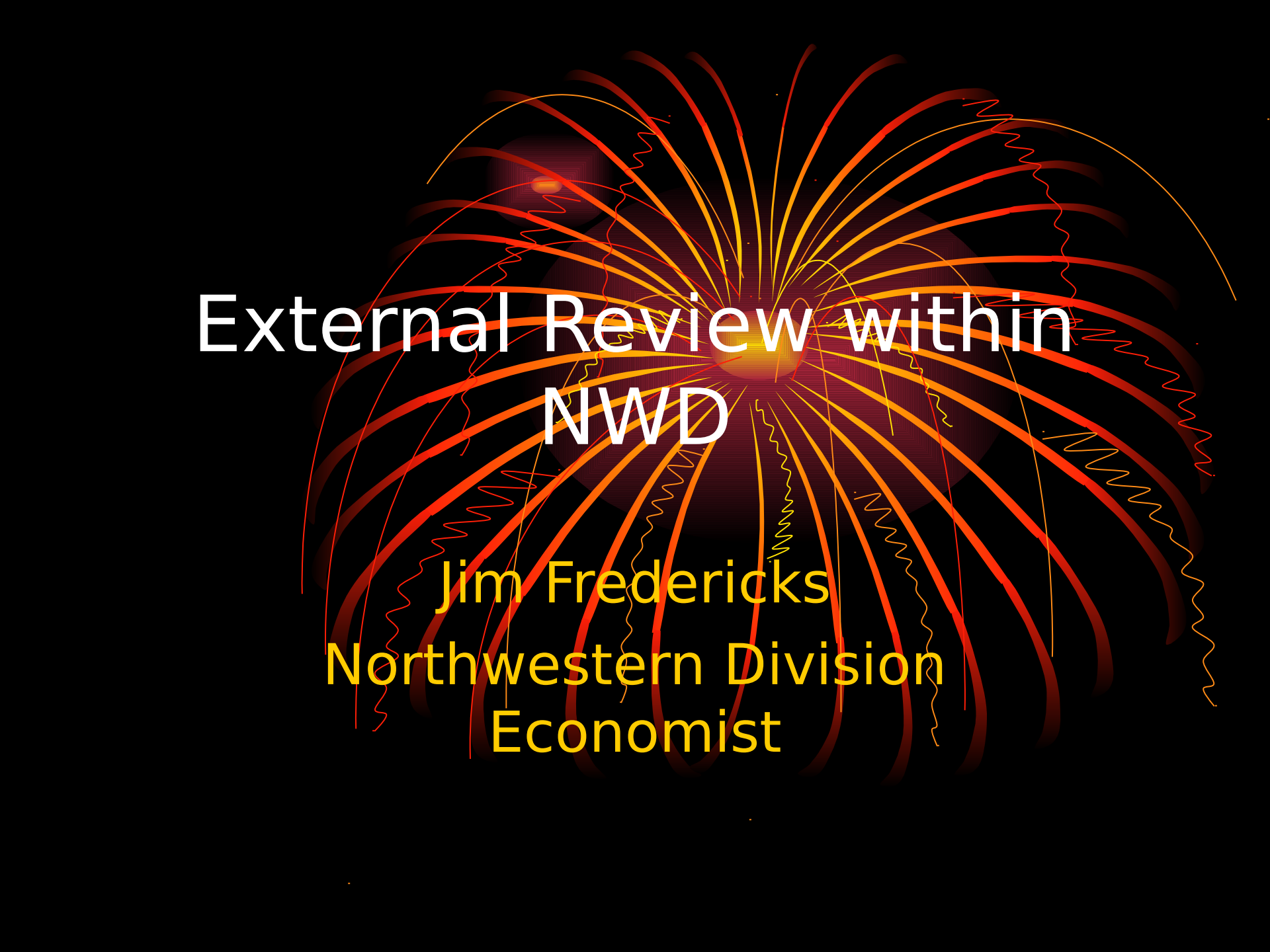

External Review within NWD

Jim Fredericks

Northwestern Division

Economist

Columbia River Navigation Channel Improvement Study (CRNCI)

- Background
  - Deep Draft Navigation (History)
  - Media
  - External Review Decision

CRCNI Significant Issues

- Incidence of Benefits – Foreign Vessels
- Rates versus Costs for Vessels
- Multiport Analysis

Columbia River Navigation Channel Improvement Study

- Issues with External Review
  - Understanding NED / Corps Policy
  - Regional Knowledge
  - Media Participation
  - Compressed Schedule

CRCNI External Review

"Overall the panel members are satisfied with the reasonableness of the assumptions and overall conclusions of the benefits analysis of the 43' channel, and that the data were generally used properly in the overall analysis."

CRCNI External Review

- CREDIBLITY
  - Sponsor
  - Congress
  - Public
  - Internal
  - Media?

Dam Removal on the Lower Snake – External Review

- Background
  - Multipurpose projects
  - $20 M Feasibility Study
  - Independent Economic Advisory Board (IEAB)
    - Membership
    - PMP

Dam Removal on the Lower Snake – External Review

- Recreation Analysis – Survey of Users with Natural River
- Hydropower – Replacement with low cost gas combustion turbine and replacement with green power
- Navigation Analysis – Capacity Constraints, new upriver facilities affecting transportation costs, mode costs, water compelled rates

Dam Removal on the Lower Snake – External Review

- Issues
  - NED Understanding
  - Corps Policy Understanding
  - Personalities
  - Tangents

Dam Removal on the Lower Snake – External Review

- Advantages
  - Credibility
  - Knowledge Transfer
  - Challenges Our Understanding
  - Develops Relationships
  - Sensitivity Analyses

Summary

- We will do it again whether there is guidance to or not.
- The benefits exceed the costs.